



Virginia Green Attractions

Profile:



Wisteria Farm and Vineyard Stanley, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Attractions** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for **Green Attractions** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests. Below is a list of this attraction's "green" activities that guests can expect.

Wisteria Farm and Vineyard

"A small, family-run farm and vineyard nestled on the western slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the Shenandoad Valley. All wines are from Virginia grapes, with half of them from our own vineyard. Bring a picnic to enjoy on our deck or one of the picnic tables in the vineyard and wander around the farm and watch the animals."

Green Statement: "We have always been interested in protecting the environment and conserving energy in our private lives and maintain that same interest in our new business. To that end we practice sustainable agriculture to the greatest extent possible and recycle and reuse as much as we can."

All the posts and trellising in the vineyard is from the cedar cleared from the area; no treated posts. Some exterior fencing is from recycled railroad ties. Flooring in the tasting room is bamboo. We use a minimum of chemicals in the vineyard. We prefer to use locally produced products; organic if possible, although we do not currently offer food in the tasting room. No hunting is allowed on our property; we use fencing for wildlife control around the vineyard and garden. We do not mow all the fields, leaving some areas to grow wild for insects and small animals."



CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

- ☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:
 - Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies
Kitchen (or during meetings/events)
 - Compost food waste and other compostables
Dining room (or during meetings/events)
 - Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles
Restrooms
 - Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms

Office

- Reuse scrap paper for notes

Buildings and grounds

- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers

Other

- "cake" from pressing (skins and stems) is composted and reused in the vineyard and in our garden.

☒ **Styrofoam/Disposables Minimization.** Participants are encouraged to minimize use of all disposables and eliminate the use of Styrofoam products for take-out and left-overs. This facility pledges that they:

- Do not serve food so do not use any disposable food service products

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have low flow toilets
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize native species
- Have an effective stormwater management plan including the minimization of impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc)

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills

Heating and cooling

- Have installed ceiling fans
- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms

☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages



For more information on Wisteria Farm and Vineyard, LLC, see www.wisteriavineyard.com or contact Moussa Ishak at info@wisteriavineyard.com or 540-742-1489.

For more information on *Virginia Green* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen or www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

